Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the Summary of Invention section of the specification as follows:

Summary of the Invention

According to one aspect or embodiment of the present invention, there is provided a method of setting the voice personality of a voice service site, wherein the voice personality characterisers ~~associated with~~identified by a previously-visited voice service site and used for presenting voice output of said previously-visited voice service site are used in presenting the voice output of a currently-visited voice service site.

Typically, the voice service sites operate by serving, from voice page servers, voice pages in the form of text with embedded voice markup tags to a voice browser, the voice browser ~~interpreting these pages and~~ carrying out ~~speech recognition of user voice input,~~ text to speech conversion to generate voice output[[,]]; and ~~dialog management;~~ the voice browser being disposed between voice page servers and the user. In this ~~case~~embodiment, it is the browser that manages which set of voice personality characterisers is used in rendering a particular voice page; the set of voice personality characterisers used in presenting a voice page of the previously-visited site being identified by the latter by indications included in that page.

The voice personality characterisers preferably have associated usage permissions regarding what sites can use the characterisers. Voice service sites may also specify whether external voice personality characterisers can be used for presenting the voice output of the site.

According to another aspect or embodiment of the present invention, there is provided apparatus comprising:

- voice-service access means for accessing different voice service sites;
- voice-service presentation means for presenting the output from an accessed voice service site using a voice set by a selected set of voice personality characterisers; and

- selection means for selecting the set of voice personality characterisers to be used by the voice-service presentation means to present the currently accessed site, the selection means being operative to enable a set of voice personality characterisers ~~associated with~~identified by a most-recent previously-accessed voice service site and used by the voice-service presentation means to present the output of that site, to be selected for use in presenting [[a]]the currently-accessed~~visited~~ voice service site.

~~According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a server site holding sets of voice personality characterisers for imparting particular voice personalities to the presentation of the output of voice service sites, said sets having associated usage permissions regarding use of the sets in presenting voice sites.~~